

## Message Text

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14

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 SCI-06 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 RSC-01 SCEM-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00

ABF-01 RSR-01 /080 W

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P 231029Z AUG 73

FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3270

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN

AEC/GERMANTOWN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE IAEA VIENNA 6954

EO: 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, AFIN, IAEA

SUBJ: CURRENCY OF PAYMENT OF IAEA ASSESSED CONTRIBUTIONS

REF: STATE 166629

1. SUMMARY: JAPANESE MISSION HAS INFORMED AGENCY SECRETARIAT OF INTERNAL GOJ SITUATION WITH REGARD PAYMENT OF AIEA ASSESSED CONTRIBUTIONS WHICH MAKES GOJ SUPPORT FOR US VIEWS OUTLINED REFTEL MUCH MORE LIKELY. END SUMMARY.

2. SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL INFORMED MISOFF THIS MORNING THAT JAPANESE MISOFF (TAKAOKA) HAD CALLED ON HIM YESTERDAY TO REQUEST AGENCY ASSISTANCE IN CHANGING METHOD BY WHICH GOJ TRANSFERS FUNDS TO AGENCY. AT PRESENT, REMITTANCES OF JAPANESE ASSESSED (AND VOLUNTARY) CONTRIBUTIONS TO IAEA ARE MADE IN DOLLARS THROUGH AGENCY'S ACCOUNT IN NEW YORK. JAPANESE MISOFF EXPLAINED THAT TRANSFER TO ACCOUNT IN NEW YORK REQUIRED PROCESSING THROUGH BANK OF TOKYO AT OFFICIAL GOJ EXCHANGE RATE OF 308 YEN TO US\$1.00.

3. ON OTHER HAND, JAPANESE MISOFF EXPLAINED, IF PAYMENT COULD BE MADE BY GOJ TO AGENCY DOLLAR ACCOUNT IN TOKYO, EVEN IF FULL AMOUNT

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BALANCE WERE THEN IMMEDIATELY TRANSFERRED TO NEW YORK BY AGENCY,

GOJ COULD MAKE DOLLAR PAYMENT AT DOMESTIC MARKET RATE OF ABOUT 265 YEN TO US\$1.00, THEREBY SAVING APPROXIMATELY 12 PER CENT ON AMOUNT OF YEN REQUIRED FROM GOJ APPROPRIATIONS TO PAY DOLLAR ASSESSMENT.

4. JAPANESE THEREFORE INQUIRED WHETHER AGENCY WOULD BE AGREEABLE TO OPENING DOLLAR ACCOUNT IN TOKYO TO RECEIVE REMITTANCES IN DOLLARS THERE FROM GOJ. TAKAOKA STATED THAT SAME REQUEST RECENTLY MADE TO UN IN NEW YORK, WHICH HAD AGREED SET UP SUCH ACCOUNT AND RECEIVE GOJ DOLLAR PAYMENTS IN TOKYO. IAEA SECRETARIAT HAS ALSO AGREED IN PRINCIPLE; RATHER THAN OPENING SPECIAL DOLLAR ACCOUNT FOR ONE OR TWO TRANSACTIONS PER YEAR, SECRETARIAT HAS WRITTEN UN COMPTROLLER ZIEHL TO INQUIRE WHETHER UN WOULD AGREE TO RECEIVING AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGH UN DOLLAR ACCOUNT IN TOKYO FOR TRANSFER TO AGENCY

5. IN EARLIER CONVERSATION WITH MISSION, TAKAOKA TOOK NOTE OF US POSITION ON THIS ISSUE, SAID OUR ARGUMENT HAD SOME WEIGHT, AND AGREED REPORT OUR VIEWS ON MATTER TO TOKYO. MISOFFS HAD FEELING THAT TAKAOKA INCLINED FAVOR FURTHER ADD-ON TO 1974 BUDGET RATHER THAN CHANGE IN CURRENCY OF PAYMENT, IN CONTRAST TO DG EKLUND'S REPORT THAT AMB FUJIYAMA HAD EXPRESSED PRELIMINARY FEELING OF PERSONAL SUPPORT FOR LATTER PROPOSAL.

6. COMMENT: UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT WOULD BE POSITIVE FINANCIAL DISADVANTAGE FOR GOJ TO HAVE TO PAY 70 PER CENT OF ITS IAEA ASSESSED CONTRIBUTIONS IN AUSTRIAN SCHILLINGS. ON OTHER HAND, THERE WOULD BE CONSIDERABLE FINANCIAL ADVANTAGE TO GOJ, EXCEEDING GOJ SHARE OF ALMOST ANY REQUIRED DOLLAR ADD-ON TO AGENCY 1974 BUDGET, IF IT CONTINUED PAYMENT ENTIRELY IN DOLLARS DEPOSITED IN TOKYO. GIVEN EARLIER INDICATION TO MISSION FROM TAKAOKA THAT JAPANESE MISSION MIGHT BE BACKING OFF AMB. FUJIYAMA'S EARLIER PRELIMINARY VIEWS EXPRESSED TO DG EKLUND, IT APPEARS TO MISSION THAT THERE IS NOW EVERY REASON TO BE HOPEFUL THAT JAPANESE WILL IN END RESPOND TO APPROACH BY EMBASSY TOKYO (REFTEL) WITH SUPPORT FOR US POSITION ON CURRENCY OF PAYMENT QUESTION.LABOWITZ

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